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19

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____ .

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) *1-43* is/are pending in the application.

　　4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) *1-43* is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

　　Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

　　If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

　　a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

　　　1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

　　　2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

　　　3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

　　* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

　　a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2.   **Claims 1, 2, 43** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by

Lemelson (US 4,856,066).

        Regarding **claim 1**, Lemelson discloses a speech communication system

(column 1, lines 6-11), (which reads on claimed "a voice-responsive messaging

system") comprising:

        a voice processing unit (10 on FIG. 1) configured for recording a destination party

identity (column 8, line 64 "name") and a destination address type (column 8, line 64

"destination"), spoken by calling party (column 8, line 59 "person"), for a corresponding

message (column 8, lines 55-68) [The person composing the message speaks the

name and the destination of the message];

        a speech recognition unit (19 on FIG. 1) for outputting data (column 5, line 31

"data") corresponding to identified words (column 5, line 34 "select words") spoken by

the calling party (column 5, lines 28-36) [The speech recognition changes the data by

effecting the select words spoken by the calling party];

a master control unit (14 on FIG. 1) configured for generating a destination

address query (column 5, line 66 "query") for an identified directory database (21 on

FIG. 1) in response to identification of the destination party identity and the destination

address type by the speech recognition unit, wherein the master control unit, in

response to receiving a destination address reply (column 5, line 67 "switching code")

from the identified directory database, selectively initiates a transfer (column 9, line 2

"switching signals") of the corresponding message to the destination party based on the

destination address reply (column 8, line 63 to column 9 line 7) [The computer

recognizes the resulting speech and generate signals to define the destination of the

message].

Regarding **claim 2,** Lemelson discloses a signaling network interface for sending

the destination address query to the identified directory database, and for receiving the

destination address reply from the identified directory database, via an interoffice

signaling network configured for exchanging data between the voice-responsive

messaging system and the identified directory database (column 9, lines 24-39).

Regarding **claim 43,** Lemelson discloses the master control unit is configured for

initiating a second destination address query for a second identified directory database

in response to the destination address reply from the identified directory database

(column 5, lines 49-61).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4.   This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of

the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of

the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein

were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation

under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was

not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to

consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g)

prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

5.   **Claims 3-7 and 11-14** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Lemelson in view of Jones et al. (U S 5,193,110).

       Regarding **claim 3,** Lemelson as applied to **claim 2** above differs from **claim 3** in

that it fails to disclose a plurality of processing units.

However, Jones teaches a plurality of processing units, each configured for storing and processing a message for the calling party having a corresponding message type (30-30n on FIG. 1); and

a digital switching system (26 on FIG. 1) for switching calls between an assigned Multi-Line Hunt Group (46 on FIG.2) and a selected one of the processing units (44 on FIG. 2), the master control unit selectively causing the digital switching system to establish a line-sided connection between the selected one processing unit and the calling party for retrieval of the message for the calling party (column 4, lines 32-38).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a plurality of processing units of Jones in the invention of Lemelson.

Doing so the system provider would search the directory on more than one processing units.

Regarding **claim 4,** Lemelson and Jones as applied to **claim 3** above differ from **claim 4** in that it fails to disclose a forward command from the calling party.

However, Jones teaches the selected one processing unit forwards the message to a destination address specified in the destination address reply in response to a forward command from the calling party (column 4, lines 50-52).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a forward command from the calling party of Jones in the invention.

Doing so the system provider would search the destination party on subscriber's

request.

Regarding **claim 5,** Lemelson and Jones as applied to **claim 4** above differ from

claim 5 in that it fails to disclose a message protocol.

However, Jones teaches the selected one processing unit supplies the message

to the destination address according to a corresponding message type protocol (column

4, lines 52-58).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to use a message protocol of Jones in the invention.

Doing so the system provider would search the database via the network

interface.

Regarding **claim 6,** Lemelson discloses a local directory database for storing, for

each subscriber of the voice-responsive messaging system, a destination party identity,

a destination address, and a message type corresponding to the destination address

(column 7, lines 1-19).

Regarding **claim 7,** Lemelson discloses the local database stores a plurality of

message types having respective destination addresses (column 7, lines 1-19).

Regarding **claim 11,** Lemelson discloses a network interface configured for sending and receiving at least one of the destination address query and the second destination address query to the respective directory databases via a data network (50 on FIG. 1).

Regarding **claim 12,** Lemelson and Jones as applied to **claim 11** above differ from **claim 12** in that it fails to disclose an Internet access.

However, Jones teaches the data network is the Internet (column 4, lines 45 and 50).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use an internet access of Jones in the invention.

Doing so the system provider would search more directory databases on subscriber's request.

Regarding **claim 13,** Lemelson and Jones as applied to **claim 11** above differ from **claim 13** in that it fails to disclose a secured information directory database.

However, Jones teaches the master control unit outputs, via the data network, security information to at least one of the directory database and the second directory database in response to reception of a security inquiry from the corresponding directory database (column 5, lines 44-51).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a secured information directory database of Jones in the invention.

Doing so the system provider would search for control data addresses on subscriber's request.

Regarding **claim 14,** Lemelson discloses at least one of the processing units include a network interface for communication with a packet switched network (45 on FIG. 1).

6.   **Claims 8-10** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lemelson in view of Jones and in further view of Srinivasan (US 6,072,862).

Regarding **claims 8-10,** Lemelson and Jones as applied to **claim 7** differ from **claims 8-10,** in that it fails to disclose a voicemail message type, an e-mail message type, and a facsimile message type.

However, Srinivasan teaches the message types include a voicemail message type, an e-mail message type, and a facsimile message type (column 3, lines 37-43).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a voicemail message type, an e-mail message type, and a facsimile message type of Srinivasan in the invention of Lemelson and Jones.

Doing so the system provider would search for control data addresses on subscriber's request.

7.   **Claims 15-17, 20-30 and 34-36** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Srinivasan in view of Lennig et al. (US 5,479,488).

Regarding **claim 15,** Srinivasan discloses a system for message delivery (column 1, lines 6-11), (which reads on claimed "a telecommunications network") comprising:

a unified message platform system (10 on FIG. 1) for identifying a destination party identity (column 4, line 51 "identification") and a destination address type (column 4, line 57 "messages services"), the unified message platform outputting a destination address query (column 4, line 10 "a query message") based on the destination party identity and the destination address type (column 4, lines 49-61) [The calling party needs to know a subscriber telephone, identification and the type of message to be sent to the subscriber];

a directory database (24 on FIG. 1), storing destination addresses (column 3, line 34 "specific destination") for respective destination parties (column 3, line 36 "subscriber") based on destinations address type (column 3, line 39 "e-mail") the directory database for generating a directory response (column 4, line 24 "the results") based on reception of the destination address query (column 4, lines 8-27) [The mailbox

system sends a query to the SCP to determine the routing destination and based on the

results the SCP instructs the system the appropriate destination to transmit the

message]; and

a data network (41 on FIG. 1) for transporting the destination address query and

the directory response according to a prescribed data network protocol (column 4, lines

24-27) [The SCP utilizes conventional routing facilities in order to transmit the message

to the appropriate destination].

Srinivasan fails to disclose a central office switching system and a speech

recognition unit.

However, Lennig teaches a central office switching system (52 on FIG. 1)

configured for receiving a line-sided connection (column 7, line 29 "connection system")

with a calling party (column 7, lines 25-35) [The terminal network establishes a

connection between the switching system and the select remote terminal].

a speech recognition unit (14A on FIG.2) for identifying a destination party

identity (column 7, line 35 "business name") and based on respective speech samples

(column 7, line 21 "business name spoken") supplied by the calling party via the

line-sided connection (column 7, lines 35-54) [The unit recognizes the business name

spoken by the caller and determine whether or not the database lists a number for the

business unit receives the spoken input from the caller and outputting the main

number].

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a central office switching system and a speech recognition unit of Lennig in the invention of Srinivasan.

The modification of the invention will offer the capability of a central office switching system and a speech recognition unit such as the system would eliminate the operator involvement.

Regarding **claim 16,** Srinivasan and Lennig as applied to **claim 15** above differ from **claim 16** in that it fails to disclose a null result in the directory response.

However, Lennig teaches the directory database selectively supplies one of an identified destination address and a null result in the directory response in based on executing the destination address query (column 7, lines 17- 28).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a null result in the directory response of Lennig in the invention.

The modification of the invention will offer the capability of a null result in the directory response such as the system would deliver the message to the appropriate message system.

Regarding **claim 17,** Srinivasan discloses the unified message platform system

selectively sends a message, selected by the calling party, to the identified destination

address in response to reception of the corresponding directory response (column 4,

lines 16-27).

Regarding **claim 20,** Srinivasan and Lennig as applied to **claim 15** above differ

from **claim 20** in that it fails to disclose a local directory database.

However, Lennig teaches a local directory database for storing (16 on FIG. 1), for

each subscriber of the unified message platform system, a destination party identity

(305 on FIG. 3A), a destination address (306 on FIG. 3A), and a message type

corresponding to the destination address (FIG. 8); and

a master control unit configured for outputting the destination address query to

the directory database via the data network based on a detected absence of the

destination party identity in the local directory database (column 4, lines 35-42).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to use a local directory database of Lennig in the invention.

The modification of the invention will offer the capability of a local directory

database such as the system would deliver the message to the appropriate message

system.

Regarding **claim 21,** Srinivasan discloses the unified message platform system

further includes a plurality of processing units, each configured for storing and

processing a message for each said subscriber according to a corresponding subscriber

destination address and according to a corresponding message type (30-38 on FIG. 1).

Regarding **claim 22,** Srinivasan discloses the master control unit sends a

message selected by the calling party from the corresponding processing unit to the

destination address corresponding to the destination party identity (column 4, lines 16-

27).

Regarding **claim 23,** Srinivasan discloses one of the processing units supplies a

destination address retrieved from the directory response based on the corresponding

message type (column 4, lines 16-27).

Regarding **claim 24,** Srinivasan discloses a method for message delivery

(column 1, lines 6-8), (which reads on claimed " a method in a switched

communications network") the method comprising:

identifying a destination party (column 4, line 51 "subscriber telephone") and a

destination address type (column 4, line 57 "message services"), the destination

address type corresponding to a destination address (column 4, line 56 "e-mail") to be

utilized by the calling party (12 on FIG. 1) for access the destination party (column 4,

lines 49-61) [The calling party need only to know a subscriber telephone, identification and the type of message to be sent to the subscriber].

accessing a directory database (24 on FIG. 1) via a data network (41 on FIG. 1) for retrieval of the destination address corresponding to the destination party and the destination address type (column 4, lines 16-27) [The SCP executes internal call processing logic to determine the routing destination].

Srinivasan fails to disclose an originating central office switching system and speech samples.

However, Lennig teaches connecting a calling party (40 on FIG. 2) via a line-sided connection (31 on FIG. 2) to an originating central office switching system (33 on FIG. 2) serving the calling party (column 5, lines 9-15) [The caller's station makes is connected to the line circuit via the end office];

processing speech samples (column 7, line 35 "business name") spoken by the calling party on the line-sided connection to identify a destination party (column 7, line 37 "main number") and (column 7, lines 35-54) [The units recognizes the business name spoken by the caller and identify the main number from the list]; and

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use an originating central office switching system and speech samples of Lennig in the invention of Srinivasan.

The modification of the invention will offer the capability of an originating central office switching system and speech samples such as the system would eliminate the operator involvement.

Regarding **claim 25,** Srinivasan discloses forwarding a message to a destination system corresponding to the destination address according to a data protocol corresponding to the destination address type (column 4, lines 16-27).

Regarding **claim 26,** Srinivasan discloses determining an identifier for the directory database, the accessing step including accessing the directory database based on corresponding identifier (column 4, lines 16- 27).

Regarding **claim 27,** Srinivasan and Lennig as applied to **claim 26** above differ from **claim 27** in that it fails to disclose a personal directory for the calling party.

However, Lennig teaches the identifier corresponds to at least one of a personal directory for the calling party, a public directory having a listing for the destination party, and a private directory serving the destination party (column 7, lines 17-47).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a personal directory for the calling party of Lennig in the invention.

Doing so the system provider would accept all type of interfaces.

Regarding **claim 28,** Srinivasan and Lennig as applied to **claim 27** above differ from **claim 28** in that it fails to disclose the private directory.

However, Lennig teaches the private directory corresponds to one of a corporate directory listing the destination party as an employee, and a subscriber directory listing the destination party as a subscriber (column 7, lines 35-37).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the private directory of Lennig in the invention.

Doing so the system provider would accept all type of interfaces.

Regarding **claim 29**, Srinivasan and Lennig as applied to **claim 26** above differ from **claim 29** in that it fails to disclose a destination directory database.

However, Lennig teaches identifying a destination directory database based on identification for speech samples spoken by the calling party on the line-sided connection (column 7, lines 17-21);

accessing a database for retrieval of a network address for the destination directory database, the step of accessing the directory database including accessing the directory database based on the network address retrieved from the database (column 10, lines 40-44).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a destination directory database of Lennig in the invention.

Doing so the system provider would accept all type of interfaces.

Regarding **claim 30**, Srinivasan and Lennig as applied to **claim 29** above differ from **claim 30** in that it fails to disclose a group of available directories.

However, Lennig teaches the step of identifying the destination directory database includes selecting from a group of available directories (column 9, lines 20-30).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a group of available directories of Lennig in the invention.

Doing so the system provider would accept all type of interfaces.

Regarding **claim 34,** Srinivasan discloses a system for message delivery (column 1, lines 6-8), (which reads on claimed "a telecommunications network") comprising:

a unified message platform (10 on FIG. 1) comprising :

a directory access system (24 on FIG. 1) for accessing destination address information (column 3, line 34 "specific destination") for the destination party (column 3, line 36 "subscriber")based on the corresponding destination address type (column 3, line 39 "e-mail"), the unified message platform configured for forwarding a recorded message (column 4, line 27 "message") based on accessing the destination address information for the corresponding destination address type (column 4, lines 16-27) [The SCP executes internal call processing logic to determine the routing destination].

Srinivasan fails to disclose a central office switching system and a speech recognition unit.

However, Lennig teaches a central office switching system (33 on FIG. 2) configured for receiving a line-sided connection (31 on FIG. 2) with a calling party (40 on FIG. 2 and column 5, lines 9-15) [The calling party uses the telephone line connected to the end office to call the system]; and

a speech recognition unit (14A on FIG. 2) for identifying a destination party (column 7, line 37 "main number") from respective speech inputs (column 7, line 35 "business name") provided by the calling party via the line-sided connection (column 7, lines 35-54) [The units recognizes the business name spoken by the caller and identify the main number from the list].

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a central office switching system and a speech recognition unit of Lennig in the invention of Srinivasan.

The modification of the invention will offer the capability of a central office switching system and a speech recognition unit such as the system would eliminate the operator involvement.

Regarding **claim 35**, Srinivasan and Lennig as applied to **claim 34** above differ from **claim 35** in that it fails to disclose a master control unit.

However, Lennig teaches the directory access system includes a master control unit configured for generating a destination address query for an identified directory database in response to identification of the destination party (column 4, lines 29-35) and the destination address type by the speech recognition unit (14A on FIG.2), wherein

the master control unit, in response to receiving a destination address reply from the

identified directory database, selectively initiates a transfer of a message to the

destination party based on the destination address reply (column 4, lines 35-41).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to use a master control unit of Lennig in the invention.

The modification of the invention will offer the capability of a master control unit

such as the system would deliver the message to the appropriate message system.

Regarding **claim 36,** Srinivasan and Lennig as applied to **claim 35** above differ

from **claim 36** in that it fails to disclose a signaling network.

However, Lennig teaches a signaling network for transporting signaling

messages (12 on FIG. 1), the directory access system comprising a signaling network

interface (18 on FIG.1) for sending the destination address query to the identified

directory database (20 on FIG. 1), and for receiving the destination address reply from

the identified directory database, via an interoffice signaling network (30 on FIG. 1)

configured for exchanging data between the voice-responsive messaging system and

the identified directory database (column 4, lines 45-55).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to use a signaling network of Lennig in the invention.

The modification of the invention will offer the capability of a signaling network

such as the system would deliver the message to the appropriate message system.

8.   **Claims 18-19, 31-33 and 37-42** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Srinivasan in view of Lennig et al. (US 5,479,488).

Regarding **claims 18 and 32,** Srinivasan and Lennig as applied to **claims 17**

and 24 above differ from **claims 18 and 32** in that it fails to disclose transported via the

data network as TCAP query.

However, Jones teaches the destination address query and the directory

response is each transported via the data network as TCAP query and TCAP response

messages, respectively [This system will accept all type of interfaces] (column 5, lines

23-27).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to use transported via the data network as TCAP query of Jones in

the invention of Srinivasan and Lennig.

Doing so the system provider would accept all type of interfaces.

Regarding **claims 19 and 33,** Srinivasan and Lennig as applied to **claims 17**

and 24 above differ from **claims 19 and 33** in that it fails to disclose transported via the

data network according to TCP/IP protocol.

However, Jones teaches the destination address query and the directory

response is each transported via the data network according to TCP/IP protocol

(column 5, lines 23-27).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use transported via the data network according to TCP/IP protocol of Jones in the invention of Srinivasan and Lennig.

Doing so the system provider would transfer data via the network.

Regarding **claim 31,** Srinivasan, and Lennig as applied to **claim 30** above differ from **claim 31** in that it fails to disclose the group of available directories.

However, Jones teaches a system wherein the group of available directories includes a personal directory stored on a personal computer (FIG. 3), a public directory (30n on FIG. 1), a corporate employee directory (30n on FIG. 1), an e-mail address directory (30.3 on FIG. 1), and a mailing address directory (30n on FIG. 1).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the group of available directories of Jones in the invention of Srinivasan, and Lennig.

Doing so the system provider would have multiple destinations available.

Regarding **claim 37,** Srinivasan and Lennig as applied to **claim 36** above differ from **claim 37** in that it fails to disclose a plurality of processing units.

However, Jones teaches a plurality of processing units, each configured for storing and processing a message for the calling party having a corresponding destination address type (44 on FIG. 2); and

a digital switching system (26 on FIG. 1) for switching calls between an assigned Multi-Line Hunt Group (46 on FIG. 2) connected to the central office switching system and a selected one of the processing units (30n on FIG. 1), the master control unit selectively causing the digital switching system to establish a line-sided connection between the selected one processing unit and the calling party for retrieval of the message for the calling party (column 5 lines 18-23).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a plurality of processing units of Jones in the invention Srinivasan, and Lennig.

Doing so the system provider would have multiple destinations available.

Regarding **claim 38,** Srinivasan, Lennig and Jones as applied to **claim 37** above differ from **claim 38** in that it fails to disclose a plurality of processing units.

However, Jones teaches the selected one processing unit forwards the message to a destination address specified in the destination address reply in response to a forward command from the calling party (column 4, lines 50-52).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a plurality of processing units of Jones in the invention.

Doing so the system provider would have multiple destinations available.

Regarding **claim 39,** Srinivasan, Lennig and Jones as applied to **claim 38** above differ from **claim 39** in that it fails to disclose a plurality of processing units.

However, Jones teaches one of the processing units supplies a destination address retrieved from the directory response based on the corresponding message type (S3, S4, S6, S8 and S13 on FIG.5).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a plurality of processing units of Jones in the invention.

Doing so the system provider would have multiple destinations available.

Regarding **claim 40**, Srinivasan, Lennig and Jones as applied to **claim 38** above differ from **claim 40** in that it fails to disclose a local directory database.

However, Lennig teaches comprising a local directory database for storing (16 on FIG.1), for each subscriber of the voice-responsive messaging system, a destination party identity, a destination address, and a destination address type corresponding to the destination address (column 9, lines 20-30).

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use a local directory database of Lennig in the invention.

Doing so the system provider would have multiple destinations available.

Regarding **claim 41**, Srinivasan, discloses the local database stores a plurality of destination address types having respective destination addresses (column 4, lines 16-27).

Regarding **claim 42,** Srinivasan discloses the destination address types include a voicemail destination address type, an e-mail destination address type, and a facsimile destination address type (column 3, lines 37-43).

Response to Arguments

9.   In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., a need for a sender of a message to easily determine the correct destination for a message based on a message type) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns,* 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

Conclusion

10.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).
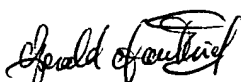
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

11.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Gerald Gauthier whose telephone number is (703) 305-

0981. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Fan Tsang can be reached on (703) 305-4895. The fax phone numbers for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9314 for

regular communications and for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or

proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-

4750.

g.g.
June 1, 2003

FAN TSANG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600